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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PITTSBURGH MAN INDICTED ON MAKING THREATS AGAINST
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK**

Greenbelt, Maryland - United States Attorney Thomas M. DiBiagio announced that Jeffrey Raymond Wilinski, age 40, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania appeared in the United States District Court, Greenbelt, Maryland today after being charged in a two count indictment by a federal grand jury with transmitting threats in interstate commerce and mailing threatening communications.

The indictment, which was unsealed today in open court, charges that on October 9, 2003 Wilinski transmitted by telephone a threat to University of Maryland Public Safety Captain Christopher J. Jagoe to injure persons at the University of Maryland, College Park. The indictment further charges that on October 6, 2003, Wilinski knowingly causing to be delivered by the Postal Service a communication addressed to John Bell which also contained a threat to injure persons at the university.

On October 16, 2003 the Federal Bureau of Investigation filed a criminal complaint alleging that on October 6, 2003 Wilinski, a former student and graduate student at the University of Maryland, mailed a letter to John Bell in which he stated he was “going to resort to violence” and go on a “shooting spree” at the University of Maryland, College Park. The complaint further alleged

that Wilinski spoke with University of Maryland Public Safety Captain Christopher J. Jagoe from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and informed him that he was capable of and would carry out violence against the University of Maryland, College Park. During that telephone conversation, Wilinski also told Jagoe that he had plenty of weapons and ammunition.

The maximum penalty for transmitting threatening communications is 5 years imprisonment followed by up to 3 years of supervised release and a \$250,000.00 fine. The maximum penalty for mailing threatening communications is 5 years followed by up to 3 years of supervised release and a \$250,000.00 fine.

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later proceedings.

The case is being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Odessa P. Jackson.